

DISTRICT CONNECTION

FROM THE DESK OF SEVENTH DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE ROB WOODALL

SALUTING OUR SMALL BUSINESSES

This week is National Small Business Week, which serves as an excellent reminder of how important small businesses are; not only for American competitiveness, but for the daily lives of thousands of hardworking men and women. America needs jobs and America's small businesses—which represent 99.7 of all employer firms—are our principal job creators.

Georgia's Seventh District is host to tens of thousands of job-creating small businesses and I work hard to meet with as many owners and employees as possible to learn how I can serve their needs better in Congress. Among my visits this week was Horizon Software International, based in Duluth. Horizon specializes in developing software for food service operations in schools, nursing homes, and elsewhere. I had the opportunity to tour Horizon and to talk to both the management team and employees. I learned from them—as I do from so many of the small businesses with which I have the opportunity to meet—what they consider to be the federal government's role in small business innovation. The answer is never surprising: the fewer government hoops they have to jump through, the better they can do their jobs.

THE GWINNETT CHAMBER GOES TO D.C.

Last week, I hosted a meeting between members of the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce and Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives John Boehner in the U.S. Capitol. During this meeting we discussed the overwhelming amount of regulations holding small businesses back from growth.



*Speaker Boehner meets with the Gwinnett Chamber in the U.S. Capitol.
(Photo: Bryant Avondoglio/Office of the Speaker)*

Our Seventh District Chambers of Commerce are all their own forces for job creation. These vital resources for our business community drive prosperity and serve as an inspiration for the rest of the country. They illustrate the kind of success folks can realize without any interference from Washington.

As the House continues to drive down spending, battle regulatory red tape, and scale back the size and scope of government, Speaker Boehner must continue to hear from the primary engine of the American economy—small business owners. I am grateful to Speaker Boehner for prioritizing the Gwinnett Chamber and recognizing the value that its members bring to America. I hope that the dialogue was as valuable to members of the Chamber as it was to the Speaker and me.

GATHERING WITH YOU

This week many of you joined me at Town Halls and several other civic events. I was grateful for the opportunity to meet with all of you. If we were not able to catch up this week, know that there will be plenty of opportunities for us to gather in the future. You are also always welcome to [email me](#) with your thoughts and concerns.

I thank everyone who came out to listen or to ask a question at these Town Hall Meetings. If you did not get a chance to ask your question, please feel free to [email me](#) that question, and I will be happy to respond. Be sure to include in your email that you attended one of the Town Halls!

As we head into the Memorial Day Weekend, I hope that you will take a moment and say a prayer for all of our heroes in uniform both past and present. Their sacrifices keep our great nation the beacon of freedom and hope that it is. To the servicemen and women in the Seventh District of Georgia—thank you for all that you do. God bless.

Sincerely,



Rob Woodall

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